This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently amended)** A method for ~~facilitating~~ operating a commercial exchange of digital media, the commercial exchange including a data storage locker and a database containing membership, registration and transaction detail data comprising the steps of:

storing a master copy of the digital media in a central media database;

assigning a unique owner identifier to the digital media;

assigning a unique identifier to the digital media;

providing a central media database containing a list of the owner identifiers and unique digital media identifiers;

providing an exchange interface configured to facilitate an exchange of a digital media in a commercial transaction;

transferring, through said exchange interface, a payment from a buyer to a seller upon verification of an authorized sale of said digital media;

transferring, through said exchange interface, a royalty payment to an owner associated with said authorized sale of digital media; and

distributing, through said exchange interface, a verified copy of the master copy of said digital media from said central media database to said buyer.

2. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 1 further including the step of assigning a type-code to the digital media to identify the type of work.

3. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 1 wherein said authorized sale of said digital media is a sale of a physical media storing a copy of said digital media.

4. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 1 wherein said authorized sale of said digital media is a sale between a previous buyer of said digital media and a subsequent buyer.

5. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 1 wherein said authorized sale of said digital media is a sale of an authorized copy of said digital media between an authorized commercial reseller and a buyer of said digital media.

6. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 1 wherein said authorized sale of said digital media is a referral sale of an authorized copy of said digital media between an authorized seller and a buyer of said digital media, facilitated by an referring party; and further including the step of transferring, through said exchange interface, a referral payment to said referring party.

7. **(Currently amended)** A method for ~~facilitating~~ operating a commercial exchange of digital media files accessible on a peer-to-peer network, the commercial exchange including a data storage locker and a database containing membership, registration and transaction detail, comprising the steps of:

    providing a central media database containing a list of digital media master files, unique digital media file identifiers, associated owner identifiers, and associated copyright owner identifiers;

    maintaining a searchable index of digital media files offered for sale by members of the peer-to-peer network;

    searching said index to identify a digital media file desired for purchase by a buyer;

    providing an exchange interface configured to facilitate exchange digital media identified in said searchable index and stored in said central media database;

    transferring, through said exchange interface, a payment from a buyer to a seller on said peer-to-peer network upon verification of an authorized sale of a digital media file located with said exchange interface;

transferring, through said exchange interface, a royalty payment to an owner associated with said authorized sale of digital media; and

distributing a copy of said digital media to said buyer from said central media database.

8. **(Currently amended)** A method for creating, on an Exchange including a data storage locker and a database containing membership, registration and transaction detail, a common index of content from multiple peer-to-peer networks characterized in that the index is accessible and searchable from a standard browser.

9. **(Currently amended)** The use of an Exchange ~~method for the~~ including a data storage locker and a database containing membership, registration and transaction detail, comprising facilitating the transfer or conveyance of ownership of digital media files carrying royalty payment requirements to a buyer; storing a master copy of the digital media files in a central media database; and distributing a verified copy of the master copy of each said digital media file from said central media database to said buyer.

10. **(Currently amended)** The use of claim 9 ~~an Exchange method for the~~ further comprising the step of control of the payment and ownership conditions for the transfer or conveyance of ownership of digital media files by a copyright or royalty owner in real time.

11. **(Currently amended)** The use of claim 9 ~~wherein the method comprises~~ further comprising the step of immobilizing physical media corresponding to the digital media files.

12. **(Currently amended)** The use of claim 9 ~~wherein the method comprises~~ further comprising the step of providing the Exchange with a record of the purchase (verified ownership).

13. (**Previously presented**) The use of claim 9 wherein owners (including copyright holders) can re offer their media for sale.

14. (**Previously presented**) The use of claim 13 wherein said owners (including copyright holders) can control the conditions of resale on line.

15. (**Previously presented**) The use of claim 9 wherein owners can use the media that they own within the conditions provided by the copyright holder.

16. (**Previously presented**) The use of claim 9 wherein prices can be determined by independent bids and offers as well as other criteria applied on line by the copyright holder.

17. (**Previously presented**) The use of claim 9 wherein copyright holders get paid on all types of transactions (trade, donation or sale) according to what they have provided on line.

18. (**Previously presented**) The use of claim 9 wherein plural transaction configurations are available within the Exchange.

19. (**Previously presented**) The use of claim 18 wherein one of the plural transaction configurations is a classical store.

20. (**Currently amended**) The use of claim 9 ~~wherein the Exchange method~~ further comprising the step of enabling ~~enables~~ multiple Exchanges to exchange information with each other for the purpose of completing transactions.

21. (**New**) A data processing system for facilitating commercial exchange of digital media comprising:

      a computer processor for processing data; and

      computer readable media containing computer software configured to perform data processing functions comprising:

      a).   assigning a unique owner identifier to the digital media;

      b).   assigning a unique identifier to the digital media;

c).   providing a central media database containing a list of the owner identifiers and unique digital media identifiers;

d).   providing an exchange interface configured to facilitate an exchange of a digital media in a commercial transaction;

e).   transferring, through said exchange interface, a payment from a buyer to a seller upon verification of an authorized sale of said digital media;

f).   transferring, through said exchange interface, a royalty payment to an owner associated with said authorized sale of digital media; and

g).   distributing, through said exchange interface, a copy of said digital media from said central media database to said buyer.